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18 FEB 1975

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MEMORANDUM FOR : Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT : SIGINT Committee

REFERENCES : (a) D/DCI/IC letter to DCI dated 26 December 1974 with covering note (Tab 1)  
(b) DCI tasking to obtain General Allen's comments on proposed restructure of SIGINT Committee (Tab 2)  
(c) DIRNSA letter, dated 27 January 1975, commenting on SIGINT Committee reorganization (Tab 3)

1. On 26 December 1974, I forwarded  study of the mission and functions of the SIGINT Committee. You will recall that several actions were proposed in that study. First, it was recommended that the SIGINT Committee be continued as part of the USIB mechanism; that the SIGINT Committee be authorized a small staff augmentation of SIGINT specialists; and, that the current DCID 6/1 be revised. After review of the study, you directed that we obtain General Allen's comments concerning the study.

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*never  
signed when  
approved*

2. Of the actions proposed by the  study, the updating of the current DCID appears to be one of the more significant requirements. The current version, promulgated in April of 1965, does not reflect up-to-date mission, functions and relationships of the Committee. The draft DCID 6/1, at Tab 2, is based on a February 1973 revision which was approved but never promulgated. This draft clarifies the function and mission of the SIGINT Committee by taking

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into account its responsibilities to the DCI and IRAC as well as to USIB; its responsibility to advise and assist the Director, National Security Agency in the discharge of his responsibility as set forth in NSCID 6; the NIO's responsibilities with regard to substantive intelligence needs; and the composition, organization, and rules of procedure for operation as outlined in DCID 1/3. These items are highlighted in the draft DCID at Tab 2.

3. In response to our query, General Allen advises:

a. He agrees that there is a continuing need for the SIGINT Committee.

b. Restructuring of the SIGINT Committee into discipline subcommittees [redacted]

[redacted] should be rejected.

c. He questions the proposal to augment the Committee staff.

4. General Allen recognizes that one indispensable function of the Committee is to provide a Community coordination function. This facilitates satisfaction among the Community that they have an influence on NSA and that they know what is being accomplished by NSA. He opines that with an enlarged staff, Committee actions could become too self-contained and not reflect the broad community view, as is evidenced now. He recommends the deletion of the statement concerning the "small staff of SIGINT officers" from the proposed DCID 6/1.

5. With General Allen's response, two alternatives surface:

a. Alternative 1. Approve the [redacted] study which augments the staff and provides for revision of the currently outdated DCID 6/1.

b. Alternative 2. Approve the study with the exception of the recommendation for staff augmentation and continue the ad hoc approach to accomplishing the Committee's responsibilities. This alternative also provides for revision of the current DCID 6/1.



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6. While there is room for concern that an augmented staff would become self-serving, I do not believe this would evolve. Not only is [ ] attuned to the criticism such action would cause, the Committee representatives would continue to hold dominion over the Committee's work.

7. You will recall that there was considerable discussion concerning the staff augmentation and their being colocated with the SIGINT Secretariat on a full-time basis. As I indicated in my 26 December 1974 note (Tab 1), Jack Blake and I can work this problem should you choose to approve the augmentation alternative. In view of other priority tasks, I do not believe this must be accomplished as a matter of urgency.

8. In view of the many tasks currently assigned to the Committee and the much mentioned "bad condition of SIGINT requirements," I believe an investment as recommended by [ ] would result in significant dividends in the long run. Request your decision.

Samuel V. Wilson  
Lieutenant General, USA  
D/DCI/IC

Attachments  
a/s

DCI Decision:

26 FEB 1975

Date

Alternative 1

Alternative 2

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Distribution:

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IC/MPRRD/  (3 Feb 75)

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24 FEB 1975

## IC REGISTRY ROUTING SLIP

Office	Init.	Date
3 D/DCI/IC	[Signature]	1-27-75
2 AD/DCI/IC	[Signature]	
1 EO	M	2/27
PD/Plans		
SA		
CS		
MPRRD		
PRD		
CPAD		
HUMINT Br.		
USIB Sec.		
Sec Comm		
IHC		
IC Registry	[Signature]	
ACTION OFFICE _____		
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IC Staff received / cys - furn offices circled.		

COMMENTS: 3  
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Attached is the DCI's approval of the SIGINT Committee staffing proposal. Alternative 1 (the augmented staff) was selected. The next step is to circulate to USIB the proposed DCID-6/1.

[Redacted] tells me that if 25X1 the DCID is approved, the augmented staff will consist of 3 additional officers (1-NSA, 1-DIA, 1-CIA) plus 2 additional secretaries. We should probably alert Jack Blake ASAP about the need for extra space since it probably will take some months to negotiate it.

Could  
SIGINT staff  
work in this?

yes -  
please do so.

Return to Registry 25X1  
for [Redacted]

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Cover Memo #2 To  
DCI/D

## Routing Slip

TO:

		ACTION	INFO.			ACTION	INFO.
1	DCI			11	LC		
2	DDCI			12	IG		
3	S/MC			13	Compt		
4	DDS&T			14	Asst/DCI		
5	DDI			15	AO/DCI		
6	DDM <sup>9</sup>			16	Ex/Sec		
7	DDO			17			
8	D/DCI/IC	✓		18			
9	D/DCI/NIO			19			
10	GC			20			

SUSPENSE \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Remarks:

Before signing -  
 ① I'd like to hear Gen Allen's comments -  
 ② The DCI then should go thru USIB -

DCI/DCI

12/30/74

26 DEC 1974

Note to DCI

Bill,

25X1 Attached for your review are the results of a study headed by [redacted] on the organization and functions of the SIGINT Committee. It has two recommendations for your approval, one of which concerns the augmentation of the Staff of the Committee.

If you approve these recommendations we will be obligated to arrange for full-time office space co-located with the USIB/IRAC or SIGINT Committee Secretariat.

I have discussed this need with Jack Blake<sup>x</sup> and he agrees to tackle the problem if you approve the augmentation. I recognize that the space situation is critical, but in light of the most important work being done by the SIGINT Committee, I believe that an investment of this sort will pay handsome dividends in overall longer-range savings.

[redacted]  
D/DCI/IC

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x With the cooperation of the IC Staff, which Sam Wilson guarantees, will be available as always, there is a prospect one can mark this out - responsibilities at the moment, however, to establish a time frame.

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2 December 1974

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT : The SIGINT Committee

1. In April this year, DDS&T and DDI joined in asking the D/DCI/IC to sponsor a review of the SIGINT Committee functions. They believe there should be a reorganization of USIB mechanisms

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2. An ad hoc group, chaired by [redacted] has now completed this review. The Group has considered various organizational arrangements to accommodate those SIGINT functions which support the DCI and USIB. Suggestions ranged from the idea of abolishing the Committee altogether to recommendations that a whole new complex of working groups be established for the individual SIGINT disciplines [redacted]

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3. The Group concludes that there is a continuing need for a SIGINT Committee. It rejects the suggestion to restructure the SIGINT Committee according to the separate SIGINT disciplines; but accepts the need for improvements in the Committee's ability to deal effectively with all facets of the SIGINT system's responsiveness to user requirements.

4. To satisfy this need, the Group believes that the SIGINT Committee should have assigned to it a small staff of SIGINT officers. It believes that a new directive should be issued to replace the one of April 1965 under which the Committee now operates. This, together with your Letter of Instruction to the Chairman, should provide a clear definition of the role you expect the SIGINT Committee to play.

5. The augmentation would be provided by individuals being detailed to the staff from appropriate USIB Agencies/Departments. These personnel would be assigned to duty with the SIGINT Committee by their parent organizations, working out of the Chairman's secretariat office in the CIA Headquarters building.

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6. I recommend that you:

a. Authorize the Chairman of the SIGINT Committee to establish, with the advice and approval of the Committee, a small staff of SIGINT officers to serve the Chairman and the Committee in fulfilling their responsibilities.

b. Approve the attached DCID on the SIGINT Committee for distribution to the USIB.

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/ Samuel V. Wilson  
Lieutenant General, USA  
D/DCI/IC

Attachment  
As stated

Approve:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Director of Central Intelligence

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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